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of large baggage. One thousand and twenty pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

September 19, the steamship *Trave*, of the North German Lloyd Steamship Company, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 316 steerage passengers and 75 pieces of large baggage. Four hundred and eighty pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

September 20, the steamship *Calabria*, of the Anchor Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 501 steerage passengers and 107 pieces of large baggage. Five hundred and eighty-six pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

Smallpox in Naples.

The situation as regards smallpox in Naples continues about the same as when the last weekly report was made. I was unable to obtain a report of the exact number of cases or deaths in time for this letter. I have therefore withheld the weekly abstract of bills of health, but will forward it as soon as I receive the figures referred to.

Plague in Egypt.

Under date of September 16, 1901, it was reported that there were 11 cases of bubonic plague in Egypt, 6 at Mit Gamr, 4 at Alexandria, and 1 at Benha, all natives. Since April 7, 1901, when the prevalence began, there have been in all 155 cases and 74 deaths.

Respectfully,

J. M. EAGER,

Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Report on the plague situation at Naples.

NAPLES, ITALY, September 26, 1901.

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that there are at present numerous foci of plague at Naples. The diagnosis has been confirmed by bacteriological methods.

On the 24th instant, I was informed that 2 stevedores, who had been employed at the bonded warehouses at the Punto Franco, in the most active part of the port of Naples, had been taken sick at their homes at Barra and Poggioreale in the outlying parts of Naples. The clinical diagnosis of bubonic plague was made and the stevedores and all the members of their families were transferred to the isolation station on the island of Nisida.

* * * * *

I am sending you to-day the following telegram in partial cipher: "Plague is now present in Naples. Diagnosis confirmed by bacteriological examination. Regulations observed."

Regarding the present condition of affairs, the royal Italian authorities have informed me that plague has developed in several widely removed localities in the city, that Naples is to be considered a plague-infected port. All the cases are, it is asserted, traceable to the Government warehouses at the Punto Franco.

There have been, up to the present time, 11 cases, in all probability plague, with 4 deaths, and, in addition, there are numerous suspected

cases. The cases, I am informed, occurred in various parts of Naples, namely, Barra, Poggioreale, Vomero, Fuorigrotta, and San Giovanni. Clinically and microscopically the diagnosis was confirmed, and the bacteriological examination was in progress.

All cases are being removed to the isolation station at the island of Nisida, about 5 miles from Naples, and the most strenuous measures of disinfection are being applied to all persons, places, and things suspected of infection.

Vessels bound to other Italian ports are, by the orders of the ministry of the interior to the prefect of Naples, submitted to rigid sanitary measures before leaving Naples. All passengers and crew are required to undergo a medical examination. The passengers, on arrival at their destination, will be visited medically for seven days at their places of lodgment. The effects of passengers, the cargo, and the vessels are being disinfected both before clearing and after their arrival. Vessels at the wharf are supplied with rat shields, and asphyxiating gases are used to destroy rodents aboard.

It is stated that there is a noticeable mortality among rats, and that the plague bacillus has been found in the bodies of rats dead at the Punto Franco.

In regard to the measures being taken by the Marine-Hospital Service at this port, the steamship companies have been informed that the United States Quarantine Regulations, with amendments and additions thereto, will be strictly insisted upon as a preliminary to granting bills of health.

Of the 2 steamships billed to leave Naples for New York to-day, namely, the *Hohenzollern*, of the North German Lloyd, and the *Patria*, of the Fabre Line, the companies have decided that the latter will not sail, and that the former will refuse pratique at Naples and take on no passengers or cargo here.

Respectfully,

J. M. EAGER,

Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Inspections at Naples and Palermo—Plague and smallpox in Naples.

NAPLES, ITALY, September 30, 1901.

SIR: I have the honor to report that for the week ended September 28, 1901, the following ships were given bills of health:

September 22, the steamship *Tartar Prince*, of the Prince Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 446 steerage passengers and 124 pieces of large baggage. Six hundred and seventy-two pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

September 26, the steamship *Hohenzollern*, of the North German Lloyd Steamship Company. On the 26th instant the vessel arrived from Genoa at the time the excitement from the announcement of plague at Naples was at its highest pitch. Telegraphic communication had been interrupted by order of the Italian authorities, and it was not known what modifications of the United States Quarantine Regulations to be observed at foreign ports would be allowed. The agents, therefore, decided not to embark emigrants. The Italian authorities refused permission to embark cabin passengers if the ship did not take the steerage passengers. The captain thereupon refused to take pratique and left